



NEWS RELEASE

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Bell Gardens Man Charged with Killing Wife, Child Abuse

A 32-year-old man has been charged with fatally beating his wife in their Bell Gardens home, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Michael Robles (dob 1/11/85) has been charged with two felony counts in case VA145206: murder and child abuse.

The defendant is scheduled to be arraigned today in Department 6 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Downey Branch. Prosecutors are asking that bail be set at \$2.1 million.

Prosecutors said on July 5, authorities responded to a call for medical assistance in the 6200 block of Lanto Street in Bell Gardens.

When paramedics arrived, they reportedly found Azelea Villareal, 28, with multiple injuries to her body, according to prosecutors. Villareal was taken to the hospital but died the next day, prosecutors added.

Authorities began an investigation into Villareal's passing and learned that Robles and the victim reportedly had fought prior to her death, according to prosecutors. Investigators also discovered Robles allegedly struck Villarreal as she was holding their 4-year-old child.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of 31 years to life in state prison.

The domestic violence case is being investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.